

Childhood Conversions

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BY
Grace Weiser Davis

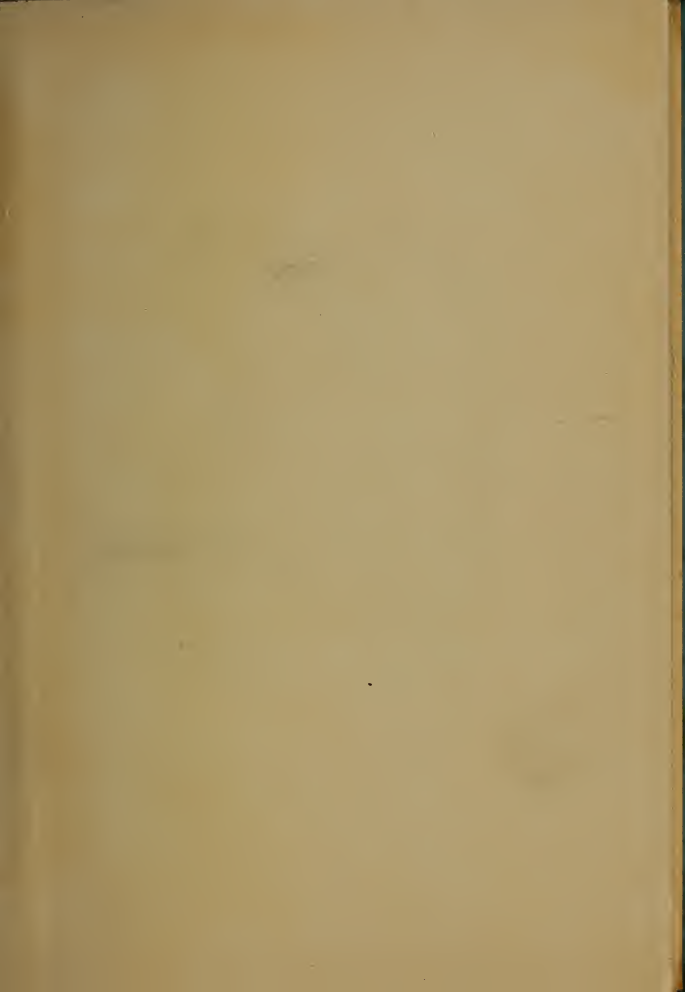
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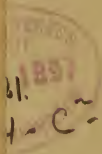




GRACE WEISER DAVIS.

CHILDHOOD CONVERSIONS S

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BY

GRACE (WEISER) DAVIS

JUNE 21. 1897

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BOSTON:

THE CHRISTIAN WITNESS CO.

36 BROMFIELD ST.

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CHILDHOOD CONVERSIONS.

Get a middle-aged or old person converted and it often counts but one ; get a child converted and it is the beginning of a soul-saving multiplication table.

INTRODUCTION.

Ocean Grove, N. J., May 1, 1897.

Mrs. Grace Weiser Davis,

Dear Friend,—

You kindly ask me to write a brief introduction to your forth-coming book on "Childhood Conversions," in which you intend to illustrate the same by instances and incidents under your own observation. Please accept this friendly letter instead of the old formality to which you refer.

I am glad you have given some of your time and strength to this work. Yourself converted at the age of eight, together with your wide experience as an evangelist, and especially your service

at Ocean Grove with the young for a number of years past, and the great success of that work here, eminently qualify you for such a task.

Childhood and early youth are the most beautiful, interesting and important periods of human life. Beautiful, because unmarred by sin; interesting, because guileless; and important, because at that early period are inculcated the principles upon which the whole life is built. We cannot build well, unless we have good foundations. Around these periods cluster the fondest hopes. Every age and clime present marked illustrations of these things. The early histories of Joseph, Moses, Samuel, Joash, Josiah, Daniel and Timothy are prominent in the Bible. "They all remembered their Creator in the days of their youth." Thousands too, in every land

and age since the Bible closed at the early ages of five, six, seven, eight, and other years of youth, by an intelligent surrender of their hearts to God, not only commenced a religious life, but proved themselves in later periods, among the most consistent and useful Christians.

The best people in all ages and countries have been interested in the religion of childhood, and this interest is stronger now than ever. The more spiritual the church, the stronger is this solicitude. To this work, men and women in almost all lands are being divinely called. There is no field of labor to those properly qualified more important, or where returns are more abundant; neither are there any departments of religious work having higher sanctions or greater encouragements.

In the days of the Lord Jesus upon earth, "They brought young children to him, that he should touch them; and his disciples rebuked those that brought them. But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.

How beautiful and encouraging, to those who work in childhood fields, is the following paragraph: "And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, and said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name, receiveth me."

How terrible, too, the following announcement, falling from the same hal-

lowed lips— “And whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a mill-stone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depths of the sea.”

Your work at Ocean Grove has been so blessedly successful among the children, in their direct personal salvation, that if your life had accomplished nothing else on earth, this would be a noble monument to your usefulness, and also proof that Ocean Grove is not a failure. May you have still greater success in the future, and your little book be a great helper in that success.

Very truly yours,

E. H. STOKES,

President of Ocean Grove.

PREFACE.

It is a grateful encouragement to Christian workers among the children that they so clearly appreciate the invitations of the gospel. Unbaised by prejudice, and free from evil habits, they seem fitted to receive the word and believe as if by instinct. To them the story of the cross is a painful reality, and the love of Jesus dying for the world finds a ready response in their innocent natures. Scarcely a pastor's experience that does not include frequent cases of adults who were converted so early that memory retains but vaguely the circumstances. *There is no age limit to faith and love.*

Mr. Spurgeon, in a letter to Rev. E. P. Hammond, the "Children's Evangelist," says, "Dear Sir: My conviction is that our converts from among children are among the very best we have. I should judge them to have been more numerously genuine than any other class, more consistent, and in the long run more solid. I speak of those who are tried and kept under the wing of the church." He also asserts that of twenty-seven hundred members taken into his church in childhood he never had to discipline one.

The clearness with which they state their Christian experience will astonish those not accustomed to conversing with them. Catechise them concerning their evidences, and they prove them-

selves theologians who need not to be ashamed of their faith.

“How do you know you have found Jesus?” was asked of a little boy.

“Because He has forgiven all my sins.”

“What made Him forgive you?”

“Because I told Him I was sorry for them, and the teacher said, ‘If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins,’ and it made me cry to think I had not loved Him and prayed to Him, and I asked Him and He forgave me.”

The loyalty of children to their early faith is a noteworthy fact. It is rarely found necessary to dismiss one of them from the church. Where this does sometimes occur, the cause may be

found in the neglect of them by their parents or the spiritual authorities. It ought not to be presumed that they will be mature Christians at once. Neither are adult converts. "They will," says Dr. Bushnell, "as many of us do, live a mixed life, sinning and repenting, and let us not on this account debar them from the privilege of assembling themselves with God's people at stated times to commemorate the dying love of Jesus." They will be children, but *Christian* children.

The annual camp meetings at Ocean Grove are abundantly confirmatory of children's conversion. It is a thrilling sight to see a hundred or more of the little ones every year marching through the crowds toward the altar to receive

the holy communion amid shouts and songs and tears, Mrs. Grace Weiser Davis with her corps of assistants leading the lovely host. This elect lady, with her long experience as teacher and evangelist, is well qualified to write of the conversion of children, and the prayer of the writer of this preface is that still greater results may accompany her labors in this most important field, heretofore so marvellously blest of the Lord.

I. SIMMONS, D. D.

Pastor of First Church, Hartford, Conn.

LETTER.

For many years I have been greatly interested in the work of leading children to Christ, as well as the grown people. My evangelistic training commenced when I was appointed to lead the young people's class in my own church. Then, for a number of years I conducted meetings specially for children and young people at various camp meetings. In my work among the churches I always have special services in the afternoon for the children.

Those converted in childhood, if faithfully instructed and faithful to God, develop into the most useful Christian workers afterwards, as far as I have observed.

The talks given in this book are just such as I have given to thousands and seen thousands commence the Christian life through them.

The boys and girls to whom reference is made are almost all living and working for Christ. From many books the impression is given that good children all die or become morbid. It will be seen that the reverse is true in this book of real stories of real, living people.

With a prayer that these short talks may help many children and many grown people who are trying to help the children, I send this book forth upon its mission of helpfulness.

GRACE WEISER DAVIS.

May, 1897.

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CHAPTER I.

OUR SINS ARE MANY.

“Lord, my sins they are many,
Like the sands of the sea;
But Thy blood, O my Saviour,
Is sufficient for me;
For Thy promise is written
In bright letters that glow,
Though your sins be as scarlet.
I will make them like snow,”

is a hymn that most people know.

It is true of grown folks and children that our sins have been many,—all the cross words, the untruths spoken, the swearing, the impure words, the wrong use of the lips in every way.

Then we have used our hands wrongly, and our feet wrongly, and in so many ways have done wrong. All these wrong actions are written against us, as well as all the good things we might have done but have failed to do.

A little girl, upon going to bed, said: "Mamma, I have been so naughty to-day." The mother said, "Why, darling, I didn't notice it; what have you done?" "I've had such a naughty fink," said the little girl.

She meant that she had let herself have bad thoughts; just such thoughts as you have had sometimes, when your parents have told you to run on some errand, and you wanted to play.

Perhaps you have felt mad inside and, instead of praying that you might resist the feeling, you have thought it over and over.

Just again as you have felt when your teacher or parents have made you do something that you didn't want to do. Perhaps you slammed your book on the desk, or banged the door shut, or made an ugly face. It was the wrong thought came to you, and you did not try to forget it.

So every wrong thought, or word, or act is written against us in God's book, and remains there until we ask Him to take them away.

Our sins are as the sands of the sea—so many that we cannot count them.

The little girl's mother did not know about the naughty thoughts of her child until she was told; but God did. He knows all about us; His eye is on us all the time. He sees us in the day and in the night. He sees us when no one else sees us.

A little girl named Lollie one day took a piece of cake from the table without asking, because she thought no one would see her. When asked if she had taken the cake, Lollie said, "No." One sin leads to another.

When Lollie's auntie told her how God had seen her when she took the cake, Lollie said, "No, He wasn't looking then." She thought so, because she couldn't see God; but He saw her when she couldn't see Him, and He heard her tell the story.

I am glad to say that when Lollie understood this she asked God to forgive her and help her never to act thus again.

CHAPTER II.

WHAT SHALL WE DO ABOUT OUR SINS?

WHAT GRACIE DID.

What shall we do about all these sins about which I have just written? I will tell you what a little girl, named Gracie, did.

She had tried to be good, but so often did the things she had not meant to do.

One day a pleasant-faced gentleman said in the Sunday School, "I believe a child can be converted!" Then he said, "I believe when you are eight years of age you are old enough."

Little Gracie heard him, and she said to herself that, as soon as she was eight, she would be a Christian.

Now, if I were telling little folks, I should say as soon as you are old enough to understand. Some understand when eight, and others not until years after.

There came a time when Gracie was eight years of age, and she was going to a camp meeting. She had made up her mind that there she would be converted. For a few days no one was invited forward for prayers.

One evening the preacher asked those who wanted to pray and be prayed for to come to the front. Gracie got ready to go, but when she reached in her pocket she found she had no handkerchief. So she thought she couldn't go that night.

The next night she was careful to have a nice, clean handkerchief; but when she got ready to go, something seemed to say, "If you go, some one will steal your

rocking chair." So she didn't go that night.

The third night she did not take her chair to church, and took a clean handkerchief. Now, she thought, she was all ready.

But this time another thought came: she had on a nice, new hat. The thought came, Suppose you go and get so happy that you knock your hat around and spoil it? Gracie had seen some grown persons get so happy that they would thus have their hats fall off.

You see, Gracie wanted to give her heart to the Lord, but something was holding her back. Do you know who it was? It was the bad man, whom the Bible calls the Devil, that said these things to keep Gracie from coming. The same bad spirit tries to keep everyone from getting good, and from doing good.

But, while Satan tries to hinder, God will help those who ask Him, and Gracie prayed for help. So the next night she left her new hat home; and then, when the people were invited forward, she went.

But, while Gracie knew what she wanted, she hardly knew what to do.

An old lady asked her why she had come there, and she told her "That Jesus might make her good." The lady said, "Now pray: Lord, I believe; help my unbelief." Gracie hardly understood what this prayer meant, but she prayed as told.

Then the old lady left Gracie, and she told the Lord how she wanted Him to forgive her of all the naughty things she had ever done.

A minister said afterwards that, at first, the little girl wept and then she

commenced to laugh. He asked her why.

“O, sir, I felt so bad I just had to cry, and now I feel so good I must laugh. There’s a verse I think of, ‘Blessed are they who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled,’ ” said Gracie.

Then they stood her upon a bench, and she gave her first words of testimony for Jesus, as a converted girl.

Gracie’s father said, “Are you sure you are converted?” as he walked home with her. When she said she was, he asked her how she knew. She told him she felt so in her heart.

He asked her how she felt. That was a very hard question to answer. After thinking a minute, she said, “I just feel as if I love everyone.” It was the best way she could tell it.

So, when we give our hearts to Jesus, He gives us so much love that we love God more than ever before, so that we try hard to please Him; we love our parents so that we obey them; we love our playmates so that we are kind to them; and we love those who have been unkind to us so much that we do not want to return their unkindness, but to be kind to them.

CHAPTER III.

AFTER GRACIE'S CONVERSION.

Some people think that children cannot know, when they are so little, that Jesus has given them a new heart; but children can, and do know it, and so did Gracie.

That night, as she knelt down to pray, she commenced, as she usually did, "Our Father!" but she stopped, and then she said it over and over again, "My Father!" Then she said, "My Father, who art in heaven; but, dear Father, you are on earth, too, and you are in my heart."

Gracie's older sister told her afterwards how she felt afraid of her now,

because she was a Christian. So this sister had covered her head with the bed-clothes, for fear she would be talked to. She said afterwards she was afraid she would smother, because Gracie prayed so long, and yet she was only saying the Lord's Prayer; but she said it over and over again, because it seemed so sweet to her since she understood it by heart.

The next morning Gracie saw an old lady, of whom she had always been a little afraid—she seemed so good; but now the fact that the old lady was so good made the child love her all the more. So Gracie ran right up to her, but did not know how to tell her.

All the people from one church boarded at the same place; so some one said at the breakfast table, "Did you know that Gracie was converted last night?"

"No," said the old lady, "but I might

have known it, she is so very loving this morning."

So it was. Gracie loved God more, and she loved those who were trying to serve Him. She loved those, too, who were not given to Him; so she never stopped praying for her sister until she, too, had given her heart to Jesus.

Then Gracie loved her Bible more than ever. Gracie had been taught to read the Bible, and had learned hundreds of verses in the Sunday School; but now she loved them so much more and understood them better. They seemed to be written for her as well as the others.

When she and her sister went home from the camp meeting, they both joined the church. The sister was eleven, Gracie was eight. Some people thought they were too young to understand, and

few spoke to them to welcome them into the church.

On the other side of the altar were two young men who also joined the church; but they went back into sin, while Gracie and her sister grew up trying to be Christians, and are trying to be so now.

Gracie found that the Lord would help her in her lessons, at play, at home, and everywhere, and all the time.

CHAPTER IV.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A CHRISTIAN? HOW OLD MUST ONE BE?

What does it mean to be a Christian? It means to give yourself to Jesus, have your sins forgiven, and then what? I will tell you what a little girl in New York City told me, "It means, after that, to mind everything Jesus says." That is it, exactly. When you are going to do anything, to say to yourself, Will this please Jesus? Said a little boy, "It means to do just as Jesus would if He were a little boy and lived in this house."

Can boys play ball, and marbles, and fly kites, and have a good time, if they

are Christians? Can girls play with dolls, and tea parties, etc., if they are Christians? Yes, and enjoy themselves much more. Nothing need be given up but sin, which leads to doing naughty things.

How old must one be to do this? you ask. As soon as you are old enough to obey mamma and papa, you are old enough to obey God. As soon as you know what would please or displease them, you can know what will please or displease God. As soon as you know you love papa and mamma, and are loved by them, so soon may you know of the love of God.

Said a little boy, "I thought persons must grow up and be very wicked before they tried to be Christians." Not so, however. The Bible says, "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy

youth!" "They that seek me early shall find me."

There is a saying, "'Twill save you from a thousand snares to mind religion young." That is so.

God can save a drunkard and help him to give up drink; but how much better to give your heart to Him and so be kept from ever learning to drink! Samuel was only seven years old when his mother gave him for service to God. Asa was only eight years of age when he commenced to serve the Lord.

Jesus can use a boy or girl to do much good, if they keep near to Him.

He used the little maid to help Naaman find healing.

He used the little boy and what he had to feed thousands of people. The little boy was close to Jesus, and so was used; Jesus blessed what he had.

So, if boys and girls will let Jesus bless them, He can make them a blessing to others.

The little maid spoke for Jesus, and how Jesus blessed her words!

Joseph, when a lad, pleased God, and obeyed his father. His brothers treated him badly. But, because Joseph kept on trying to do right, God took care of him. After a time Joseph was next the King, while his brothers were in need.

Did Joseph return evil for evil? No. He was a Christian; he returned good for evil, and his brothers were sorry for the way they had treated him.

Some boys are afraid they will be laughed at if they try to be Christians. Please God, and He will take care of those that laugh at you or who treat you badly. Isaac Watts, the great poet, be-

came a Christian when nine years of age. His influence will never die. Adam Clarke, the great commentator, was converted when four years of age. Alfred Cookman, the great revivalist, was converted when about ten years of age. Jonathan Edwards was seven, William Penn was nine when they started to be Christians.

I could fill this book with the names of bishops, and preachers, and Sunday School superintendents and Sunday School teachers who are all intelligent workers for Christ now, all of whom were converted under the age of fourteen.

I mention these names above to encourage boys and girls to seek Christ early and serve Him all the days of your life.

In these pages to come I want to tell

you real stories about real people who tried to be Christians, and some of the things they did. I have known all to whom I refer, and most of them are living now.

CHAPTER V.

MAY BE SURE GOD HAS FOR- GIVEN YOUR SINS.

At a series of meetings at Ocean Grove, N. J., held for the children during the camp meeting, a boy named Samuel came forward to pray for himself.

He, at last, thought God had forgiven his sins, and he said his heart felt lighter.

The next afternoon he was forward again. Upon being asked why he had come forward again, he said, "I wanted to feel quite sure the Lord has forgiven me." He said he felt the Lord had blessed him a little, but he wanted the Lord to bless him more. Soon he rose,

his face beaming with joy, and said the Lord had answered his prayer.

What God did for Samuel He will do for any little boy or girl who will ask Him to forgive and bless them.

I told this story at another of the children's meetings at the same place. Afterwards, another boy came forward, named Andrew Robertson, who was thirteen years old. His mother had brought him up to be a good boy, so she went to him and said, "My boy, have you not been trying to be a good boy? Why have you come here?"

"O, mamma," he said, "I want to be sure that I have a new heart." After some praying, he said he felt sure that he was converted.

When he went home he spoke to his brother, urging him to come to the children's meeting and give his heart to

the Lord. But the older brother told him that he was a Christian already. "Well, you want to be sure of it, that's all," said Andrew. He led a brother and playmate to Christ at these meetings.

When this boy went to his home in Paterson, N. J., in September, he was taken sick; but even then he tried to do some work for Jesus.

A cousin was sick, and he urged that some one of the family visit this cousin and try to get him converted. He said, "It would be so awful if he should die and not be saved." So the cousin was visited and prayed with and was converted.

This boy had a constant desire to see others become Christians, and led a number to Christ—at least helped to do so.

His father was a minister and his mother a very earnest, active Christian. It had been their hope that Andrew would be a minister when he grew up; but he grew worse, until they saw their dear boy had consumption.

One day Andrew asked his mother if she thought he would get well.

She said she thought they ought to leave that in the Lord's hands; but she asked if he didn't think he was ready to die, if God wanted him. Andrew said, "Yes; but I do so want to live."

One day in October he commenced the subject with his mother by saying, "Mamma, I've been thinking about what we talked some time ago about my living, and I don't feel about it as I did then. It's all right, if He doesn't want me to live here much longer."

From then on the dear boy seemed to

grow weaker, and one day Jesus took Andrew to Himself in heaven.

But it was wonderful up to the very last how this dear boy, who was so sure he was the Lord's boy, tried to get others to the same knowledge, and he died trusting in Jesus. I have no doubt he is with Jesus to-day in heaven.

What Andrew knew in regard to being God's child, every boy and girl may know if they pray earnestly to God for forgiveness and believe the Word of God and afterwards try to please God.

Andrew's choice of hymns was, "The best friend to have is Jesus." Just before he died he asked his mother when she thought he would be well. The mother said, "I think Jesus is coming for you to-day, and you will never be sick or suffer any more."

He smiled, and a number of times afterwards, when he was suffering most, said, "Mamma, Jesus seems a long time in coming." He told his mamma he would be watching for her to come to heaven.

Just before he died he seemed to be talking with some one, and smiled as he answered, "Yes and no." Then he went to sleep here, and awakened in heaven.

The eyes filled with love to the last

Now see Jesus' face with delight;
His sickness and sorrows are past,
He dwells with the saints, robed in
white.

CHAPTER VI.

MAKES ONE HAPPIER TO BE A CHRISTIAN.

A lady in Washington, D. C., held a prayer meeting every week at her house.

She had been praying very much for a special blessing upon the next prayer meeting to be held, but the day proved to be a very stormy one, so only one lady came. They had a prayer together, and wondered why she had been so drawn to pray, if it was going to be so stormy that no one could come to the meeting.

This lady had a little daughter, six years of age, named Virgie. She knelt with the two ladies, and afterwards kept saying she was so happy.

When they asked her what made her so happy, she said, "Why, you asked Jesus to bless us, and He has done it. I feel so happy!"

From that day on, Virgie was a changed girl.

When I knew her first, she was a curly-haired girl of thirteen years of age. She was an earnest, Christian girl, working in the church and Sunday School, a great comfort to her mother and helpful to many others. People who were sick liked to have Virgie come and visit them. She would sing and talk about Jesus to them and pray with them.

She was anxious to help people become Christians, and she tried to help them other ways. So she helped the poor people, and carried things that might tempt the appetite of the sick.

When seventeen years of age, she was

not feeling well, and the doctor said she had better go into the country. So she went to Virginia. She had to ride some miles in a stage at the end of her journey, and there she talked to the driver about giving his heart to God, and gave him some tracts.

Virgie grew worse, instead of better, and so they sent for her mother. When the mother arrived and Virgie saw her, she said, "Mamma, I'm so tired! Won't it be nice to go home?" In a few hours Virgie had gone to her heavenly home.

On the way back home the mother had the same stage driver take her and Virgie's coffin to the cars who had driven Virgie when she had come to the place. He wept, and said he had never heard anybody talk like her, and that Virgie had helped him to become a

Christian. So Virgie's last action was to do good.

In Virgie's church and Sunday School, where she had been so beloved, they draped her chair in beautiful white. They said they would not put black in her memory, but white, to remind them that Virgie was wearing a white robe in heaven, and that it might help them keep themselves as pure as dear Virgie had been.

CHAPTER VII.

BETTER THAN ANYTHING ELSE.

Richard was his right name, but he was called Dick, for short—this little boy of whom I now write. He was eight years of age.

His father was a minister. One day, while the father was away preaching somewhere, Dick came home from church, telling his mamma that he had given his heart to Jesus, and meant to live as Jesus would have him from that time on.

His mamma was very much pleased, and the next evening, when Dick's father came home, she told him, and he was pleased, also.

The next morning the rest of the family had arisen and gone down stairs—all but the father and Dick. The father was tired, and had gotten to bed late, so he thought he would rest a little while longer.

Dick was very fond of sleeping with his father; so, when he saw his father, he got out of his bed, and, in his night clothes, went to his father's bed, and said, "Papa, may I come in with you?"

"Certainly you can, my boy," said the father.

So Dick cuddled up to his father, and, after he had kissed him, said, "Papa, I want to tell you something."

"All right," said the father; "go ahead and tell me." Dick's father thought that Dick was going to tell him about his becoming a Christian, so he got all ready to hear it.

Dick waited a minute. "Well, what do you want to tell me?" said the father.

Dick cleared his throat, and then said, "Papa, I've lost my jack-knife!"

"Oh, you have," said the father. "Well, I'm sorry for that; but boys will lose their knives, sometimes. I suppose I'll have to buy you another one, now."

The father was disappointed at what Dick had to tell him.

Then they both were quiet for a minute, when Dick said, "But, papa, I found something that is better than a jack-knife."

"Oh, you have," said the father. "Why, what can be better than a jack-knife? Tell me about it."

Then Dick cuddled closer to his papa and said, "Jesus."

Then he told his papa how he had given himself to Jesus and how happy

he was, and they had a good talk together.

Dick's papa saw that Dick had told him about the knife being lost so as to open the subject about Christ being found.

Dick is a grown man now, and he has tried to live for Jesus ever since.

His father told me the story, and I have written it because I think it such a beautiful one.

Yes, Jesus is better than anything else that we can have in this world.

CHAPTER VIII.

NEVER SORRY FOR BEING YOUNG WHEN THEY BECAME CHRISTIANS.

I know a lady who has three daughters who were all converted when they were small.

The mother told me she wanted that her children should eat food that was healthful, and dress in a proper way, and to teach them in book knowledge; but that she wanted also to help them to have a heart knowledge of God.

You know many people have a head knowledge of God; they know what they ought to do, but they don't do their duty, because they have not given their hearts

to God. He says, "My son, give me thine heart."

This mother of whom I speak talked daily to her girls, and she spent the whole Sabbath evening of each week talking to them of God.

One Sabbath evening, as they had an unusual time at their seaside home—for they had a home in the city, but when the hot weather came they always went to the seashore and stayed there until it was cool in the fall—this evening the mother had a very long talk with the children, and she thought they understood what it meant to give themselves to God for life.

Then she asked them how old anyone ought to be to be a Christian.

The eldest daughter, Maria, said she thought they ought to be eight years of age. She was something over nine.

The other girls were twins, and they both thought one ought to be six years old. They were over seven.

"Then," the mother said, "according to what you think, you are all old enough to do this?" They said they were.

After each one said she would like to become a Christian, the mother had each one kneel at a separate chair to pray, until they each felt that the Lord had blessed them. Then the mother had each one write a little letter to the father, telling him all about it.

He was at his church in the city, preaching. How glad he was to hear the good news! He read the letter to his church, and they were glad, too. Many hearts were touched by the letters of these children, and it was the beginning of a great revival in that city church.

Many years have come and gone since then, and those little girls are now young ladies, but they have tried ever since to live for Jesus. Every one of them has been a good worker in the church, and they have helped many others to come to Jesus.

Nor have the girls ever been sorry that they commenced, when small, to serve Jesus. I have heard each one of the three say that she was glad she commenced the Christian life when young, and if you were to meet them they would tell you the same thing, I am sure.

CHAPTER IX.

JESUS WILL BLESS YOU ANY- WHERE, IF YOU PRAY.

There were some meetings being held in Elsie's church, and Elsie made up her mind that evening that she would go forward for prayers; but her mother would not allow her to go to church, as Elsie had said she had a headache.

The mother did not know about Elsie's resolve, or she could have helped her, but she thought going twice to church in one day was enough for Elsie.

Elsie now had not only a headache, but her heart ached even worse than her head. That night, when she had said her prayers, as she usually did, she told

Jesus the best she knew how about how sorry she was for all the sins of the past, and how she wanted Him to forgive her and give her a new heart.

Jesus heard Elsie and blessed her in her bedroom. Then Elsie called her mother and told her. Both of them were very glad. So Elsie learned that Jesus could bless her at home as well as at church.

Roy was in Sunday School when he heard those who wanted to give their hearts to Jesus invited to come forward. "But," said the person, "don't come if you are too little to understand." Roy was only seven years old.

When he went home he told his mamma that he had given his heart to Jesus.

"Why, Roy," said his mamma, "I hope you didn't go forward!"

"No, I didn't," said Roy, "because I was afraid they might think I was too little; but I gave my heart to Jesus where I sat."

"We must pray for your papa now," said the mamma.

"All right," said Roy, kneeling down to do so at once. His mamma had not meant to pray then, but they did.

At the tea table Roy said to his father, "We have been praying for you, papa, and so you'll have to go to church to-night, and be a Christian." Then Roy told his papa what he had done that afternoon. Roy was an only child, and his parents hated to refuse him anything, so, when his papa saw he wanted him to go to church, he went. Now, Roy's father rarely went to church.

That evening the person who was leading the meeting asked from the

pulpit that the people would come forward for prayers, and then went down the aisles asking the people. Roy's father was asked, but he said, "No."

Roy was sitting in the choir by his aunt's side. He watched his papa as he refused, and then he slid off his seat and went and stood on the pew by his father's side.

Roy urged his papa to go, for fear the altar would be full. Finally it was filled. Then the leader said, "You may come and kneel at the front seats."

Roy kept saying, "Hurry up, papa!" until his papa said, "Roy, you mustn't talk in church," at the same time lifting Roy down to the floor. Then the father left the church.

Roy felt so badly that he wept; but soon his father came in again and went and kneeled down at the front bench,

He said he kept hearing his boy's voice, "Hurry up!" until it seemed as if God had led his boy to say it.

Roy went and stood by his papa and said, while the father knelt, "Now, papa, just tell Jesus to make you a good boy."

Roy's father was converted, and a number of aunts and uncles were also converted during that revival through Roy.

Six weeks after Roy was taken ill with scarlet fever, and it left him with dropsy.

One day the doctor said, thinking Roy was asleep, "Mrs. L., your little boy will never be well until God makes him well in heaven.

When the doctor went Roy told his mamma he had heard it, and he wanted her to pray that God would make him well that day, but she said she could not,

One day he had her look at his arms and feet, which were so swollen, and he said, "I'm so sick; do pray Jesus to make me well in heaven."

The mother, at last, knelt and said, "Dear Lord, if it be Thy will, make our dear Roy well on earth and spare him to us; but, if not, then we give him to Thee to make him well in heaven."

Roy seemed so glad, and in the evening tried to get his father to do the same. Finally, the father did.

Then Roy said, "I know Jesus will soon answer our prayers."

His father told Roy any time he wanted to see him he should say so and he would come.

One day Roy asked to see his father, and they sent at once for him.

"Papa," said Roy, "I think Jesus will make me well to-day."

“Don’t talk so,” said the father. “Please God, I hope we will have you many days longer.”

Then Roy got his father and mother to sing, “I hope to meet you all in glory,” which they did, as far as their tears would permit. Soon Roy was taken by Jesus and made well in heaven.

So you see, Jesus can bless us anywhere, if we ask Him to.

CHAPTER X.

A CHRISTIAN HAS TEMPTATIONS—BEING LAUGHED AT.

When anyone tries to do right, the Evil Spirit will try to get him to do wrong, and so everyone must watch and pray.

A boy or girl may be tempted not to tell the exact truth, or not to obey the teacher or parents; or, if doing the thing commanded, to pout; or to be dishonest, or to treat or speak unkindly to those who are around.

In many ways Satan will try to get us to do wrong, and he comes so cunningly that we hardly know it is he until we have yielded to him. Then, if we have

done wrong, Satan tries to get us to give up doing good. So the Bible says we must watch and pray.

One of the hardest things for children to endure is to have their playmates laugh at them for doing right. But, if you pray, God will make even this turn to a blessing for you.

John C. was an English boy and lived in England.

He often wanted to be a Christian, but no one asked him to do so. He often wished that his father or the class leader would say something to him; but they didn't.

One night in the service he prayed God to lead his Sunday School teacher to talk to him.

At the close of the service, as he was going out of church, the Sunday School teacher said, "John, I would like you to

come to class meeting next Wednesday."

John's heart bounded with joy. He felt God had answered his prayer. John's father told him he would take him to the class.

John went a number of weeks, but he did not feel sure about his sins being forgiven.

John was about fourteen years of age and he worked at mixing cement for masons.

Some weeks after this, one of the boys of his own age started to make fun of John. He said, "John, I understand you have become delicious!" The boy meant religious, but was too ignorant to use the right word; but John understood what he meant. He prayed a minute, and then and there God blessed him as he had never been blessed.

Another boy, named Joe, who had been a swearer and drinker, was converted.

His comrades made fun of him, and once tried to force the whiskey down his throat; but Joe would not be forced into doing bad, either by their threats, or taunts, or laughing.

Some one asked Joe if he didn't feel bad when the fellows laughed so at him. "No," said Joe, "I don't mind it, because I have the laugh on the inside of me."

That is true, too; Jesus will give you a greater joy by serving Him, even though those around should make sport of you.

In glass factories, after the glass is made, it is put into a hot oven and heated for a few minutes. Then the glass is taken out and cooled off, ready to be cut into panes of glass for use.

Before the man cuts the glass he puts it out where the light and air will fall upon it. If the glass is not properly heated, it will crack at once. Then it is not used, but has to be melted and made over again. If the glass stands the test, however, then it is cut up for use.

So the Christian is tempted by the Devil to do wrong, and tried by God, to see if the person can be trusted. When boys and girls do not yield to the tempter, and God sees He can trust them, then He can use them for His service.

So it is important to do everything as we believe God would have us, and to remember that when we are refusing to do wrong we are gathering strength for future service.

CHAPTER XI.

TO KEEP RIGHT ONE MUST WATCH AND PRAY.

In order to keep right one must watch and pray. We are tempted in every way to do wrong and to keep from doing the right.

Said a little boy to his grandma, "Grandma, every day when Chilton and I get up in the morning we say, 'Now, to-day, we'll be good,' and we mean to be good; but mamma says if we have been naughty we must say at night time, 'Father, forgive us.' Do you know, grandma, every night time we have to say, 'Father, forgive us,' because we have done something we ought not to

have done? Now, grandma, can you tell me why?"

Then the grandma told him it was because they didn't remember to pray during the day that Jesus might help them.

Many boys and girls only pray at night time.

One little boy said he prayed at night because he was going to sleep, and it was dark and he wanted some one to take care of him. "In the day time, when I'm awake," he said, "I can take care of myself."

Before the day was over a runaway horse knocked him down and broke his arm. So you see, there is need of God's help in the day, not only to keep the body safely, but to help us to do right.

We should pray the first thing in the morning and the last thing at night and

during the day whenever something seems to try to get us to do wrong or to keep us from doing our duty.

It is our duty to do every little thing right.

We should study in school, and thus fit ourselves to be wise Christians, and we ought to do everything promptly and correctly at home.

Said a little girl, "Before I tried to be a Christian, when mamma wasn't around, I did not sweep under the mats and in the corners of the room, but now I sweep everywhere." Ask God to help you to be faithful in the little things.

We are building a house that shall stand through eternity. You know if a brick got crooked, there it would be in the house. We want to build well. Everything we do helps or hinders the beauty of our house, which we call our character.

Suppose you find you have done something that was naughty; what then? Shall you give up trying to be good? No; go right to God and tell Him you are sorry, and ask Him to forgive you. Then try and not do the naughty deed over again.

I knew a little boy named Phillip, who had great trouble about his temper. If anything did not please him he would get very angry, and then he was likely to say or do something that was naughty. So Phillip's mother taught him to go to God and ask forgiveness at once as soon as he found he had been angry.

One day, after he had kneeled down and prayed, he arose from his knees with such a bright face, that I asked him what he had said.

He said, "I told God I was sorry and

asked Him to please help me not to forget the next time."

Then I asked him if God said anything to him.

He said God had said: "That's all right, Phillip; you can go back to your play. I will help you."

Phillip was right. God has promised to and will help us all in every time of need if we ask Him to do so.

CHAPTER XII.

A HELPFUL PRAYER AND HOW IT HELPED SOME FOLKS.

If we were to use the little prayer found in the Bible, in the Book of Matthew, the fifteenth chapter and the twenty-fifth verse, we would be helped continually.

The prayer is just three words—"Lord, help me"—and is so short that we could say it quickly, and ought to say it often in the day.

I heard one boy say, "I didn't know how to spell a word that the teacher gave to us to write, and I was tempted to look on the next boy's slate; but I said, 'Lord, help me,' and so did not be dishonest."

Another boy said, "When my mamma called me to do something for her I used to pretend I didn't hear her calling me, or else I would keep on playing a little while longer before I answered her. Now, I say, 'Lord, help me,' and then I answer her and do what she wants me to quicker than a wink."

To do anything quicker than a wink is doing it pretty quickly, isn't it? Just wink and see how quickly you can do it. Then think that quicker than a wink this boy did what he was told to do. That is, he obeyed the very instant he was told to do anything.

I heard a little girl say that she used to pinch the baby to make it cry if her mamma told her to take care of the baby when she wanted to play.

Wasn't that naughty to hurt a dear little baby?

“Now,” said the little girl, “since I am trying to be a little Christian, when I want to play and mamma tells me to take the baby, I say, ‘Lord, help me,’ and then I not only do not make baby cry, but try to do everything to keep baby from crying.”

Said a mamma, “My little Lucy told so many stories from a little girl that it became easy for her to tell untruths, but, since she has been trying to be a little Christian and says, ‘Lord, help me,’ she has become truthful.”

Said another mother, “My boy and girl used to bang the doors when I made them do what they didn’t want to, but now they use that little prayer, and God is helping them to obey cheerfully.”

Another mother said, “My little girl used to pout and cry if she could not have her own way. If she couldn’t have

all the cake and jam she wanted and I made her eat some bread, she would pout. Now she says that little prayer, 'Lord, help me,' and eats and does what I tell her and does not pout."

Said another one, "I have been saying the same little prayer, and God has been helping me not to get impatient."

Yes, God will answer that prayer as often as we use it.

We can pray it anywhere, any time. We can say it quietly to God on the street, or in the schoolroom, or on the play ground, or in the home, or at church, or anywhere. More quickly than we can say it will God answer us.

Any boy or girl who wants to please God will live so at home, by being quick to obey, kind to brothers and sisters and playmates, that it will be seen by those around them.

A Christian will be honest at school, too, and study, and will be faithful at his work.

I heard John Stephenson, a great car builder, say that when he was a boy of fifteen years of age, he used to ask God to help him be faithful in his work.

From being faithful as a lad, he rose until he was noted for being faithful. He honored God first, and God honored him in later years in a wonderful way.

CHAPTER XIII.

GOD'S EYES ARE EVER UPON US.

We never get away from God.

I have known boys and girls sometimes to do things that were wrong, thinking no one was looking. But some one was looking all the time. Let us remember the verse, "Thou, God, seest me."

I suppose all the boys and girls know what an ostrich feather is. The ostrich, from which these feathers are taken, is a large and very shy bird. If it cannot get away when it sees travellers approaching, it will bury its head in the sand. It seems to think that if it cannot

see the people they will not be able to see it, either.

How foolish, you say. Yet just as foolish are those who act wrongly, trying to hide the wrong from God. Because people cannot see God with the human eye does not prevent God from seeing them and even to know the thoughts of the heart.

Said a man who had been trying to live for God for one year, "It is a great comfort at night when you face God and know that He has seen your conduct during the whole day and your thoughts; it is then a wonderful comfort to know that you have tried to do your best."

God says, "Be sure your sin will find you out." So, if sin is not found out at once, it will be some time, no matter how much anyone would wish it not to be.

God's eyes are upon us always, everywhere, every place. He can see even in the dark and at night. He sees all the things we do, hears the words we speak, and He "knoweth the very thoughts of our hearts."

One night a little boy cried when sent to bed, because neither his papa nor mamma was with him. His aunt asked him why he cried. He said, "I'm 'fraid." The aunt said, "Why, dear, God is here in this room, so you need not be afraid."

Then he said, in a whisper, "Auntie, I wish Dod would det away, I'm 'fraid of Him!"

Then the auntie said, "Would you be afraid if papa was here?"

"No," said the boy.

"Well, God is your Heavenly Father, who loves you as much as and more than your earthly father, and can take

better care of you than anyone else," said the aunt.

After that little Ollie was not afraid in the dark when he couldn't see anyone, for he remembered his Heavenly Father was present, not to make him afraid, but to love and take care of him.

The only time anyone need be afraid is when they have done wrong, and the best thing is to go right and ask God's forgiveness.

A boy wrote something that was very naughty. Some one said to him, "John, I am surprised at you. I expected better things of you than that, for you know better."

John kept thinking so about it, and how God must expect better things of him, that he gave his heart to God and lived a better life.

God expects of each one of us that

we shall do the best we know how, and He sees if we do or not.

If we try, we can do what God requires, for we do not have to do it in our own strength, but God will help us.

CHAPTER XIV.

BEING BORN AGAIN AND JOIN- ING THE CHURCH.

James was converted when a boy of twelve years of age.

The leader of the meeting told the children it would be a good thing to put in their Bibles, somewhere, the date of when they were converted.

James had no Bible of his own, so when he went home he told his mother he would like her to write the date in the family Bible. So she said she would, and asked him where she should write it.

James thought a little while, and then said, "Don't you think it ought to be written under the births, for it is when I was born again?"

You know, in the family Bible, there is a place for deaths, and another page for marriages, and still another one for births.

James' mother smiled over the idea of placing the date under the births, but the more she thought of it, the more she was sure it was a good idea; so she did what James asked.

If you could see that page now, you would read under the births this record, "James S——, born July 12, 1875; born again, Jan. 4, 1887."

Then James wanted to join the church, but his mamma feared he was too young.

The leader of the meeting told of another boy who wanted to unite with the church, and his grandfather told him, when he got to be a man he might do so, but that he was now too young.

The little boy tended the sheep for his grandfather.

The next day the grandfather saw that the boy had put all the old sheep in the fenced field, but let the young little lambs out in the roadside.

“Why, my boy, what did you do that for?” asked the grandfather.

Said the boy, “Why, I thought we’d take care of the sheep, and, if nothing happened to the lambs until they grew old, then we’d put them into the fenced field.”

The grandfather saw the point, and said, “My boy, it is very important to put the lambs into the fenced field, and you shall also come into the church, which is the fenced field to help keep all from straying from God and help to protect them from the evils of the sinful things of life.”

James told this story to his mother, and she permitted him to join the church. James' mother was never sorry for it, nor was James.

To-day he is preaching of Jesus to others, and many boys and girls and grown people, too, have been led to Christ through James.

CHAPTER XV.

HOW GRACIE LOST HER JOY- OUS LOVE FOR GOD.

A person who gives the heart to Jesus and has a new heart can get into darkness again, if they do wrong, meaning to do it.

In the beginning of this book I have told you how Gracie was converted. I am going to tell you how she got into trouble some years later.

For some years she was very faithful, and then she went to a young ladies' college.

There was a near-sighted teacher there, and, to her surprise, Gracie noticed the young ladies reading their les-

sons off of their books. She was shocked at first, having never seen such dishonesty before.

One day, when she was not well prepared, she read her own lesson off. At once her heart became heavy, for she knew she had done wrong.

She asked God to forgive her, and resolved never to cheat again.

Then she noticed that while she studied her lessons, she was marked lower than those who had not studied at all. Nine was the mark for a perfect lesson, but often Gracie only got eight, while others who read their lessons got nine.

Something seemed to say to Gracie, "It is pretty hard to be marked lower than the others, when you have studied and they have not." So she tried to make herself believe she did right to look

on her book and cheated again by doing so.

If Gracie had only thought there are two sets of books kept—the teacher's records and God's. Better be marked low in the teacher's book for lessons and get the marks honestly and have God's book show a high mark for honesty, than to have a high mark in the teacher's book when you do not deserve it and be marked low by God.

Every boy and girl, too, should know that school is not merely to teach you what you learn out of books, but lessons of perseverance and application, etc.

Some studies are harder than others, some problems require more work. The child who works at the hard things with so much more vim is gaining a knowledge how to battle with all the hard things in after life. The persons

who do not apply themselves to their lessons are not likely to apply themselves to other things in after life.

I knew a girl who copied her lessons from others and had her compositions written by others at school. When she grew up and was married she was always untidy about herself, her house was not kept clean, her children wore clothes that were not mended, and her husband had to eat food that was not well cooked; and, finally, he found his home so unpleasant that he went elsewhere, got into bad company, and became a drunkard.

His wife, as a girl, complained of the lessons as hard and did not apply herself to learn them. She complained, as a woman, of her work as being hard, and did not do it.

I knew of a boy who did that way at

school, and, at last, by following up the same way at work, when grown—only doing it half—he died in the poorhouse.

Well, Gracie got into trouble in her religious life when she looked on her book again for the purpose of deceiving the teacher. Then she asked forgiveness and thought she would never deceive again.

Soon something seemed to say, "Why must you be a stricter Christian than these other girls? They look on their books, why can't you?"

Gracie did not stop to think that there is a difference between being a church member and a real Christian. There are real and make-believe Christians in the church. We ought never to follow anyone any further than they follow Christ.

Gracie made up her mind not to be so

strict, but to do as the others did, and so she lost the joy of Christ's presence out of her heart.

It was years before she regained this joy, and she shed many tears in after years of sorrow over ever having done so wrongly.

Gracie is a woman grown now, and she would tell you, as I have heard her say, that she was more sorry for the way she acted at that period at school than for anything else in her life.

So I say to all boys and girls, never do the wrong if you know it to be so.

If you do a wrong act once, ask God to help you not to repeat it.

If you do wrong, knowingly and willingly, over and over again, you will surely lose the joy of the presence of Jesus.

CHAPTER XVI.

YOU CAN BE FAITHFUL—MILTON WAS.

I have heard people talk as if children were sure to do what we call backslide; but it is not necessary, and I am glad to say I have known very many who were faithful from childhood, and I know many grown folks now who have been true to God since childhood. One of these I am going to write about in this chapter.

Milton lost his mother when he was a very small boy.

People often told him about her, and that if he would be a good boy he would meet her in heaven some day.

When Milton was twelve years old he went to a camp meeting. When the invitation was given for those who wished to seek the Lord to come forward, Milton was one of the first to respond.

How he prayed God to forgive and bless him.

The meeting closed, and the people went to their tents to get dinner, but Milton stayed all alone and prayed. Milton's sister came and told him to come to dinner.

"I don't want dinner; I want religion," said Milton. There he remained praying until the afternoon service.

When the afternoon service was ended, the people went to their tents to get supper. Again Milton remained to pray.

His sister came and urged him to take some supper.

"I don't want supper; I want religion, so I can be good and meet my dear mother in heaven," said Milton.

At night Milton was converted. When he went home he joined the church on probation.

Some time after he was skipping and jumping, feeling very happy, when he heard an old church member say, "Look at that little rascal there, running and skipping! He's a pretty church member, isn't he? In six months he will be worse than ever." Milton heard the man say it, and it made him feel very badly. He prayed about it. He knew there was nothing wrong in a boy running, or jumping, or playing, as long as he didn't play wrong things or in a wrong way. He asked God to help him, that he might never go back in his re-

ligious life and that he might always be faithful.

God heard Milton's prayer. He has always been a faithful Christian, and to-day is one of our most earnest, helpful ministers of the Gospel.

Milton is only one of a large number that I know who have been thus faithful.

What God has done for other boys and girls He can do for you. He will do it if you ask Him.

CHAPTER XVII.

HOW TO KNOW WHAT IS RIGHT —WHAT WOULD JESUS DO?

There are many things that come up for a boy and girl to decide as to whether they are right or wrong. You cannot always ask your parents' advice, because you have to decide at once, and may not be where they are.

It is a safe plan to pray a minute for God's help to decide, and then think, "What would Jesus do?" That will help you.

A little girl was being teased by the other girls, because her dress was shabby. She felt badly and was about to answer back, when she thought of

the motto hanging in the dining-room at home, "What would Jesus do?"

She remembered how, when Jesus was abused, "He answered never a word," so she walked on.

The girls, when they found they could not get her to answer back and that she was always kind in her manner to them, stopped teasing. They were ashamed of themselves.

Had the little girl answered back, they would have continued their ill-treatment.

A boy who won a game on the playground was accused of cheating by the boy whom he had beaten.

When the boy said, "You're a cheat; that's why you beat me!" he felt like saying, "You're a liar!"

He remembered, however, that verse, "A soft answer turneth away wrath," so he said, "No, I didn't cheat, and I

wouldn't, but don't let's quarrel. You may be able to beat the next game; even if you don't, I am a larger boy and have had more practice than you, so I ought to have beaten."

The boy who was beaten at once got over being angry.

"Who was whispering?" said the teacher.

One after another said, "I wasn't!" though many had whispered during the afternoon.

Bob thought a minute. He knew if he told the truth he would have to stay after school, and he did want to go out to play. Then he prayed for strength to tell the truth, and said, "I whispered."

The teacher kept him after school and had him do some writing, to remind him not to forget and whisper another day.

Bob saw others go out who had

whispered, and had then told an untruth, but when Bob did get out he felt better for having told the truth.

His teachers found they could believe and trust Bob, while they couldn't do so with some of the other boys.

When Bob grew to be a man people trusted him, too, while some of those boys could never be trusted. It would be said, "That man never could be trusted, even when he was a little boy."

CHAPTER XVIII.

WHAT WE CAN GIVE TO JESUS.

A little boy heard them telling in church about boys and girls who never heard about Jesus. He felt very sorry for these children.

After a while there was a collection taken to get money to pay some one to go and to tell these folks who had never heard of Jesus.

Ben had a penny and he tried to find it; but, though he searched each pocket, he couldn't find the penny. The tears commenced to run down his cheeks, he felt so disappointed.

Soon he stopped crying and a smile came on his face. He had thought of something to give.

When the man came with the plate up to where Ben sat and held it for Ben to put any money upon it, Ben said, "Put it a little lower, sir!"

The man did so.

"Please put it a little lower, sir," said Ben.

The man was surprised, but he did what Ben asked.

"Won't you please put it a little lower?" said Ben.

The man wondered what Ben was after, and so he thought he would see; so he placed the plate on the floor.

"I have no money to give to the missionary cause, but I'll give myself," said Ben, standing upon the plate.

The man smiled; but Ben did what he said, he gave his heart to God, and is to-day in a foreign land preaching to

those who had never before heard of Jesus.

Jesus says, "Give me thy heart," and then we want to use everything for God.

I knew a boy named Jamie who gave his heart to God when only eight years of age. He was the son of a preacher.

When Jamie joined the church next Sabbath the minister told them to try to get all the good they could from the church, and also to try to do all the good they could. He reminded them, among other things, to give of their money, as it cost to keep up the church, etc.

A few days after Jamie's father found two cents by his plate at the breakfast table.

"Where did this come from?" asked the father.

"I put it there," said Jamie.

"What is it for?" asked the father.

"That's to help the church," said Jamie. "And when you have spent all that, and need any more, let me know."

Those two cents were the first Jamie had gotten since he gave his heart to God.

God surely blessed him for thus giving.

We need not give all our money for the church, but should give some. God will bless us for everything we give to Him.

We all can give something.

What can you give? Give your heart first, and then think what else you can give.

CHAPTER XIX.

CHILDREN CAN WORK FOR JESUS.

Children can do much work for Jesus.

I knew a little girl named Hetty who gave her heart to the Lord, and then held prayer meetings with her little playmates, until her little cousin was converted. The cousin is now preaching the Gospel.

I knew another child named James who promised God, when he was sick, that if He spared his life he would live for Him.

When James got well he prayed, but did not seem to be sure about his sins being forgiven.

One night he attended a class meeting and was there blest. He was only twelve years old, but he went all through the farming neighborhood and told what the Lord had done for him.

The people were touched, and it was the beginning of a great revival, in which over three hundred were converted. Six of those converted then are now ministers of the Gospel.

A little girl who gave her own heart to God went home and told her parents and asked them to do so. The father was a drunkard, and a few nights before had driven his wife and children out of the house at midnight, though it was freezing cold and they were in their night clothes.

The father was touched by his little girl's earnestness, and came with her to church and was converted, as were also

the mother and five others of the family.

Thus she led them to Christ, and after that they had a happy home.

Said a little black girl named Mag, "I always felt I had a stone on my heart, when I went to the priest and asked him to forgive me. Now, since I have gone straight to Jesus, He has taken the stone away." She meant by the stone that her heart felt heavy.

By Mag telling this little experience she led a number of others to go right to Jesus for forgiveness, instead of going to the priest.

A very little girl heard some one say to her papa, "You ought to be a Christian for your little girl's sake."

The next evening, as her papa kissed her good-night, she put her arms around his neck and kissed him, saying, "Papa,

oo ought to be a Quistian for oor little girl's sake."

That little sentence from his little girl led the papa to become a Christian.

Another little girl led a man to be a Christian by just telling him how God helped her every day to be good.

He asked her if she thought Jesus could bless and help an old sinner.

She knew her Bible, and told him of the verse, "Come, now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord; though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as snow." And the man was helped by a little girl, where grown people had failed to help him.

A father was led to give his heart to God by his little girl saying, "Papa, has oo dot a home in heaven?" He knew he had not, and he came to Jesus, who prepared him for such a home.

You know Jesus has gone to prepare a home for everyone who will let Him bless them, and thus prepare them for the home.

Another little girl led her papa to Christ by telling him she was afraid she'd miss him so in heaven that she'd have to cry if he wasn't there.

These were very little children, but God blessed them when they did their best, and God will help everyone who will do their very best for Him.

CHAPTER XX.

WHAT JENNIE DID FOR JESUS.

Jennie gave her heart to Jesus at a children's meeting at Ocean Grove, N. J.

When she went home she told her younger sister about it. Then she had a little prayer meeting, and this sister Annie was converted.

They held their little prayer meetings often after that, and Annie helped her friend Lillie to learn about Jesus.

Lillie had been brought up in the Catholic church, where they are told they must confess their sins to a priest, so it was not easy to make Lillie understand the way.

Annie explained to Lillie how it used to be right to go to a priest to confess, but that since Jesus came He is our priest, and we are to go to Jesus only. Finally, Lillie understood, and she prayed and was blessed.

These girls helped many to become little Christians.

One day Lillie became very sick, and, after being sick for some time, her friends saw that Lillie was going to die. One day they sent for the priest to come, that Lillie might confess to him and have her sins all forgiven before she died.

When the priest came they told Lillie why they had sent for the priest and told her to confess, that she might be forgiven.

She turned to the priest and said, "Dear father"—you know they call

priests in the Catholic church father—
“I have learned to go right to Jesus and confess my sins, and so I don’t need to confess any, for Jesus has forgiven me all my sins long ago.” Then she said to the family, who were weeping, “I know if I die I shall go right to Jesus, for I know I belong to Him.”

The priest said, “I believe it, my child.”

Soon Lillie was with Jesus.

Jennie and Annie are still living and working for Jesus.

CHAPTER XXI.

OTHER WAYS OF WORKING FOR JESUS.

There are many ways that children can do work for Jesus.

One little girl printed verses to send to the hospital. One verse was, "And Jesus said, Suffer the children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

The verse was hung at the foot of a cot where a little boy who was very sick could see it. The doctor, thinking the boy was asleep, told the nurse he would die.

Soon after the nurse found him crying. When she asked him why, he told her because he did not want to die, as he did not know where he would go.

Then the nurse told him of heaven, and he seemed comforted. Poor boy, he had never gone to Sunday School or had anyone before to teach him of Jesus.

After a while he was troubled again, and he told the nurse he was afraid they might think him too little to let him come in heaven.

Then the nurse showed him the verse hanging at the foot of the cot, and Willie felt sure after that of heaven.

A few hours after he raised his hand and said, "Lord Jesus, I'm coming," and went to Jesus.

Another little girl named Hazel heard how a minister out West hadn't shoes or warm clothes and hardly anything to eat. She made up her mind that she would help that minister along.

So one day she took her cat and went from one friend's house to another and sang for them. She had a little mouth organ, upon which she played tunes, and pretended that kitty was her monkey to collect the money they would give.

She explained what she wanted the money for. Then she would say, "We are sorry for that poor minister, aren't we, kitty?" Then she would pull the cat's tail and the cat would mew, when Hazel would call it "Yes."

When the folks gave her some money Hazel would give the cat another twitch, when it would mew again, and Hazel said it was her monkey saying, "Thank you."

In this way, and by using money which Hazel had saved, she was able to send \$20 out to that minister. Don't you think he was glad? I am sure God

blessed Hazel for doing the best she knew how.

When Hazel's birthday came around, instead of having girls who had plenty of good things at their own homes to her birthday party, she had poor children.

There was a home near Hazel's house for little boys and girls who were poor and had no homes or parents. Hazel invited these children from the home to her party.

Hazel's mamma sent the carriage and brought them all to Hazel's home. There they had a lovely time, playing upon the beautiful lawn, and then they had a lovely tea. The children probably never saw so much to eat before and probably never ate so much, either.

There was plenty of cake and ice cream and candy and fruits, and the

table looked so pretty, decorated with beautiful flowers.

When the time came to go home, the children were sent home in the carriage again, and each one was given candy and an orange and a nickel. Wasn't that a lovely way of doing good?

I know another girl who did all the odd jobs her friends could find, and they paid her, and so she earned one dollar for missions.

A boy sold all the eggs from two hens and made by that and other ways four dollars to give to missions.

I have known a number of boys and girls try to do good by self-denial—use money they would have liked to spend for themselves to help some poor person instead.

Other children have, instead of doing something very pleasant, like playing,

just asked their tired mammas to let them help do something to help mamma out with her work instead.

There are thousands of ways of doing good. You can find them if you try.

I want to give you a little verse in closing, which I hope you will make your motto and think upon it often:

“Do all the good you can,
To all the people you can,
In all the ways you can,
And as long as ever you can.”

CHAPTER XXII.

HE CALLETH FOR YOU.

One time Jesus met Martha and asked for Mary.

Martha went to her sister and said, "The Master is come and calleth for thee." Mary rose at once and went to Jesus.

Samuel, when a little boy, was consecrated by his mother to the service of the Lord. So Samuel lived with the priest after that.

One night Samuel thought he heard the priest call him a number of times. After going to the priest several times, the priest told Samuel that it was God calling to him, and that the next time he heard the voice Samuel should say,

“Speak, Lord, for thy servant heareth.”
And Samuel did so.

To everyone, to-day, both young and old, the Master calleth. He says, “Give me thine heart.” How he would bless everyone if, like Samuel, they would say, “Speak, Lord, for thy servant heareth,” and, like Mary, they would go at once to Jesus.

I knew a boy to whom this call came, and he put it off until he should be older.

When he grew to be a man, he wanted to have “a good time first,” he said, as if a Christian can’t have a good time. They have the very best times in this world as well as in the next.

One day this young man had another call; it was to die. He who had not improved his time now had no time in which to get ready, and he died without Christ.

I knew another boy who, at the age of fifteen, heard the call of Jesus and listened to the call and found peace in Christ. He, too, died at the same age.

When his friends stood around his bed, weeping, he said, "I'm not afraid to die; there are two verses so helpful to me now. One is, 'Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid'; the other, 'Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.' " I am sure every boy had rather have been the latter.

I knew a girl who put off being a Christian until she should be older. There were two things especially in her way; one was something she did not feel willing to give up; the other was that

she was unwilling to publicly acknowledge her desire to be a Christian.

When a young woman she died unexpectedly to her friends, and had no one to pray with her.

The other girl of whom I now write gave her heart to God when only nine years of age.

At seventeen she was taken sick and died. As she was dying, she said, "Mamma, Jesus, heaven!"

With these words upon her lips and a smile upon her face, she went to live with Jesus. She had lived eight beautiful years for Him here, and now is living with Him forever.

I know which of these boys and girls my reader would have liked to have been. Then I say, hear the call of Jesus and yield your heart now.

CHAPTER XXIII.

WHY SHOULD YOU BE A CHRISTIAN?

A great many people think that the chief reason for being a Christian is to be prepared to die. Such people are likely to think, therefore, that old people are the ones who specially ought to become Christians, because they must die.

While old people must die, yet young people may do so also. That many young people do die is plainly shown in our graveyards. There are more short graves there than long ones. We all remember, too, young people who have died young.

But we do not need Christ merely to prepare us to die, but to help us to live. If anyone lives right, the dying will be all right.

We ought to live each day as we would want to if we knew we should not live another.

There is a saying, "'Twill save you from a thousand snares to mind religion young." The boy who gives his heart to God in boyhood will be kept from drinking and other bad habits and so not have to fight against evil habits. So it will be with the girl, also.

Every day we need the help of God to keep from doing wrong and to do our duty aright.

The Bible says, "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth." When trials and temptations come and sorrows, Jesus will help us. Our very joys will be sweeter if Jesus dwells in our heart.

Some people have an idea that the good little boys and girls all die young.

Some die young; but many bad ones die, also. But, usually, the fact of a person giving his heart to God and living for Him from youth up gives him more chance of life than otherwise, because he will keep the laws of health.

I knew a man sixty years of age who was very sick, so that no one knew if he should recover. The doctor said, "The thing in his favor is that he has always lived a good life and not had bad habits."

The man got well; but, if he had been a tobacco or whiskey user, or had sinned against his body in any way, he probably would not have lived.

Let me write you a few verses about what God says in regard to life. God's word, after all, is better than anything else that can be said upon the subject. Eph. 6: 2, 3: "Honor thy father and mother; which is the first command-

ment, with promise; that it may be well with thee, and that thou mayest live long upon the earth."

Proverbs 3 : 1, 2 : "My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: for length of days and long life and peace shall they add to thee."

Ps. 91 : 14, 15, 16 : "Because he has set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him. I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him. I will be with him in trouble. I will deliver him, and honor him. With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation."

In closing, I wish to add this advice to all the young people: If you wish to make the most of yourself in this life, as well as prepare for the next, "seek first the kingdom of God and His righteous-

ness, and all things shall be added unto you." That means everything that is for your good will be given you here, as well as life everlasting.

If you honor God by yielding yourself to Him and being faithful to God thereafter, God will honor you both in this life and the life to come.

Suffer children, said the Saviour,
To come unto Me,
For of such is heaven's kingdom.
Lord, we've come to Thee.

We will love Thee, we will serve Thee,
All our earthly days;
Then we'll join the heavenly chorus,
Songs of joy we'll raise.

May you all be able to say truthfully,

"Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
I am glad to tell
With my soul 'tis well,"

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